

REMARKS

The foregoing Supplemental Amendment cancels Claims 26 to 31, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and without conceding the correctness of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent 6,540,321 (Hirano). This action has been taken in an effort to secure an earlier allowance of this application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,


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